

ORIGINAL FORWARDS
to the
SIX VOLUMES
of
SCRIPTURE STUDIES,
TABERNACLE SHADOWS,
and
HYMNS OF DAWN

NOTE: These prefaces were issued when each volume was first printed through the year 1908, when they were replaced with a different preface (see below after "Tabernacle Shadows") which was the same in all six volumes. In 1916, the Forewords, with which we are familiar, were issued.
-- Brian Kutscher

VOLUME 1 - The Divine Plan of the Ages

*(Preface used in the Special Issue printing of The Divine Plan of the Ages,
in the Zion's Watch Tower Nos. 3, 4, 5, 1886)*

In sending forth this first volume of the MILLENNIAL DAWN, it is but proper that we apologize to the many friends who have waited for it so patiently since promised.

Our desire from the first has been to set forth the wondrous things of the divine plan, which for the past fifteen years have been gradually unfolding themselves from the Scriptures, in as comprehensive a manner as reasonable space and time would permit; but when the promise was first given of a more comprehensive statement of the divine plan than that presented by us in Food for Thinking Christians (of which one and a half million copies were issued), the author had little idea that the subject would expand itself as it has done, or that to serve the purpose intended more than one volume would be necessary.

However, as the work progressed, it was found necessary to re-arrange the subjects entirely. This has caused some delay, but has been the more necessary because of the fresh additional, yet harmonious, unfoldings of truth during the past six years.

The arrangement as at present proposed--namely, to treat the subject in seven volumes, each measurably independent, will, we trust, commend itself to our friends.

Our endeavor is so to present the subject that the studious child of God may go onward in investigation step by step, so that truths may not be stumbling-stones by reason of misplacement, and so that even prejudices opposed to God's plan may be pushed out of the way with as little friction as possible; and that all classes of honest thinkers may be enabled to realize the Bible as indeed God's Word and to recognize his plan therein revealed to be one sublime exhibition of Justice, Wisdom, Love and Power. Should this aim be successful, even to a limited degree, the author will feel that his ministry of the truth has been blessed. And of this he is confident; for it is written, "Your Labor is not in vain in the Lord."

The quotations from Scripture in this volume are not always from the common English version: we have endeavored to give the reader such translations as would most clearly give the sense, from the standpoint of the oldest Greek Manuscripts.

We have been obliged to omit the names of authors from several choice poems quoted, because uncertain to whom this credit was due.

We now commit to each of its readers certain responsibilities relating to the truths to which this volume calls attention. Be faithful to your stewardship. Let your light so shine that it may glorify your Father in heaven. If these truths shall give the reader one-fourth the pleasure they have afforded the author (and his help-mate -- to whom you are indebted for valuable assistance rendered in this connection), yours will be a joy which the world can neither give nor take away. But to have it thus will require more than one reading -- it will require careful study and comparison with the Scriptures to make these truths and joys your own. With the prayer that it may be thus with some, I subscribe myself

Yours in fellowship and service,
CHARLES T. RUSSELL.

Allegheny, Pa., U. S. A., November, 1886

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Allegheny, Pa., U. S. A., November, 1886

VOLUME 2 - The Time is at Hand

We cannot too earnestly urge upon the reader that, before beginning the study of "*The Time is at Hand*," he should have clearly in mind "*The Plan of the Ages*." To study the time, without having previously a knowledge of the general character of the events to be expected, would be worse than useless.

The Scripture quotations of this volume are not always those of the common version, which is not always the best.

We have followed it in the main, however, departing only in cases where clearness of sense demanded. For the same reason we have not been able to adopt, entire, any one of the various translations, each of which, possessing some merits, possesses also some demerits. Translators who did not understand the subjects (whose due time to be understood had not yet come in their day) could not be expected to give more accurate translations than they have given. Their services to the Church, in this direction, though not faultless, have been of great value and should not be underestimated.

We earnestly request all, who consider these subjects worthy of investigation, not to skim through this book; but, beginning at the preface, to read it throughout in consecutive order. This is necessary, because the subjects and the manner in which they are treated are unusual; and in passing lightly over any portion, connecting links will be lost, and thus the force of the interwoven testimony of prophecy be lessened. Remember that the topic is one, and that every detail has its weight and influence. To appreciate the conclusions reached, the reader must give the subject the patient and careful study of which it is worthy.

Our earnest prayer is that the truths herein presented may bring as great a blessing to the conscientious reader as their presentation has been to the writer. The real author of these jewels of truth is God, whose "due time" has now come for revealing them through his Word and spirit to such as have "an ear to hear:" the writer disclaims any originality, and merely presents to the attention of fellow Christians what he gleans from Scripture, citing the student of the divine Word to it as the only "lamp" now shining on the "narrow way." The writer's hope is that each child of God, as he hears the good tidings, that *The Time is at Hand* for the establishment of Messiah's Kingdom in the earth, may thereby be strengthened, and enabled to become a more faithful servant of the Lord, in heralding the truth.

Yours, in fellowship and service,
CHARLES T. RUSSELL.
Allegheny, Pa., 1889.

VOLUME 3 - Thy Kingdom Come

In presenting this, the third volume of the MILLENNIAL DAWN series, to those who have already read the preceding volumes, *The Plan of the Ages* and *The Time is at Hand*, we feel that we are for the most part handing it to friends; for our experience justifies us in supposing that only the friends of our God and the friends of the Truth would be interested enough to pursue the study further. To such we offer Christian greeting, and express the trust that they have made the subjects already treated their own, by a careful and prayerful examination of them in the light of God's Word, to such extend that the "strong meat" of present truth will be not only digestible, but also palatable and strengthening--"meat in due season."

Such readers need not be urged to read this volume connectedly, closely, critically; for we have heard from many how they have read the preceding volumes, some twice or three time, others eight, ten and even twelve times, with increased interest and profit. Nor is this to be wondered at when we remember that, to his holy ones, God's Word is always new every morning, and fresh every evening, and that the volumes of MILLENNIAL DAWN present merely the harmonious arrangement of the teachings of the Word of the Lord.

Some have urged greater haste in the writing and publishing of the several volume of this series, and, to a large extent, I have shared the same feelings of impatience; but my observations of the Lord's dealings and leadings and unfoldings of his plan are gradually convincing me that he has not shared our impatience. Indeed, I can clearly trace his hand in some of the hindrances encountered, and can realize that by the delay I have been enabled to grasp the subjects more thoroughly, and to present them more fully, than if the work had been hastened more.

Not only has this delay thus worked for my good and yours, but in another way also. It has afforded time for a more thorough digestion of the truths of each volume, and thereby has given to the faithful student the very necessary preparation for that which was to follow. And not only so, but it has also given opportunity for practicing the lessons learned, and for exercising the talents of each in spreading the advancing light before others of God's saints.

To how great an extent this use of your talents in serving the Truth has progressed, few can know, and for your encouragement, I must tell you: One hundred thousand copies of the first volume have been published before the second volume was ready; and now, before the third volume is published, the issues of the first volume have run over two hundred thousand copies, and of the second volume over thirty-six thousand copies.

These figures, however, only feebly express the thought we would impress; for other books (though very few) have had as great a run as these. The difference is that other books are generally sold through book-stores, merely as a matter of merchandise; while, there being almost no demand for such reading matter among either Christians or worldly people--the former not being sufficiently awake to appreciate the deep things of God;s Word, and the latter wholly indifferent--not five hundred copies of the above two hundred and thirty-six thousand were sold through book-stores.

How then, you ask, were so many disposed of? Those who have become deeply interested in the truths therein presented have disposed of the others. Some get them in quantities and send them to their friends in all parts of the world, writing them letters to awaken their interest, so that they too may read and know the "good tidings of great joy." Others purchase in quantities, and, taking what time they can spare each week, visit house after house and loan a copy of VOL. 1. for a

week or two, saying a few words to awaken or deepen an interest in the subject. One lady, beginning in a small way, has now over one hundred copies of VOL. 1. constantly on loan in the hands of ever changing readers.

Others, so situated that they can do so, have sacrificed their prospects for earthly riches, or fame, or ease, or selfish, earthly pleasures, and, accepting the arrangement of the *Tower Tract Society* for their mere living necessities, have left all to preach the gospel as colporteurs, seeking to put these books into the hands of God's consecrated people everywhere. Others, unable to devote as much time as they would like to the service of good tidings, have voluntarily given financial aid to the spread of the work.

Thus, variously, some in one way and some in another, all who love and appreciate the truth are constantly serving it, and feel that they can never do enough--that they can never do all that they wish they could do to spread the knowledge and honor of so gracious a God, so mighty a Savior and so wonderful a plan of salvation for the Church and for the world.

These, dear friends, are the honored agencies which God is raising up to scatter these harvest truths--to reap the ripe wheat of his Church, now, in the harvest of the Gospel age.

To be employed by the Lord in any part of his work is certainly an inestimable favor and blessing to such as know this joy, even though they be misunderstood by others and their motives impugned by those whom the god of this world hath blinded by error, superstition and selfishness.

The Scripture quotations of this volume are not always those of the common version, which is not always the best.

We have followed it in the main, however, departing from it only in cases where clearness of sense demanded.

That the study of the truths herein presented may prove as great a blessing to the reader as their presentation has been to the writer; and that all may appreciate the fact that the real author of these jewels of truth is God, who now makes them known to such as have an ear to hear, at the hands of his willing servants, because the due time has come; and that each, as he hears the good tidings that God's Kingdom is come, may thereby be strengthened and enabled to become a more faithful servant of the Lord, in heralding the truth, and in overcoming the worldly sectarian spirit of our time, and in purifying his own heart and life, is the desire and prayer of Your servant in Christ, our Redeemer and King.

CHARLES T. RUSSELL.

Allegheny, Pa., U. S. A., May 1st, 1891.

VOLUME 4 - The Day of Vengeance

In laying this fourth volume of the MILLENNIAL DAWN series before the public, and particularly before those interested in the preceding volumes and in our regular serial, ZION'S WATCH TOWER (of which they constitute special issues), the author feels it incumbent upon him to explain that its subject was not chosen because of pessimistic inclinations: indeed his views are extremely optimistic when considered as a whole, and this is indicated by the serial title, MILLENNIAL DAWN.

The necessity for treating this subject lies in the fact that it is "Meat in due season" for the Lord's people.

(1) It is the Lord's will that his people should understand that the Millennial Day of world-wide blessings will not come as the majority have supposed, by peaceful evolution; but that the new order of things will be born out of the anguish and death of the present order.

(2) It is due time that God's people should see why the great time of trouble comes;--that it is part of the harvest work winding up the affairs of this age, and is in the nature of judgments for misused privileges and opportunities; because those who have been enlightened with the Light of Divine Love which blazed forth at Calvary have not rejoiced in the Light nor walked accordingly.

(3) It is proper that God's consecrated people should know as exactly as his Word has outlined it, just how the impending trouble may be expected to come, that they may order their affairs accordingly.

(4) It will be a blessing, we trust, to thousands who will not fully believe its testimony and conform their course of life thereto, so as to be "accounted worthy to escape" the severity of that trouble as members of the "elect" Church. When too late to make their calling and election sure in the Gospel Church, they will be helped, we trust, while passing through "the fire of God's anger," to profit thereby; so that they, being "saved so as by fire," may "come up out of the great tribulation" with robes washed in the blood of the Lamb, and praising God. (Rev. 7:9, 10.) And we may even hope that some who are not at all God's people, seeing the fulfillment of his Word along these lines may be thereby led to a greater reverence for the Bible and a study of its Divine Plan of the Ages; to-- "Search and see, Wisdom's wondrous harmony"

Some of the thoughts herein presented will not be wholly new to many of our readers; for I have preached them from the platform in various quarters since 1876 and have published them in fragmentary form in our various WATCH TOWER publications. Nevertheless, we feel confident that these will be among the most interested readers of this volume, which sets forth the subject as a whole and connectedly. We had this volume mapped out twelve years ago, and hoped to have it issued long since; but in the Divine providence it has been hindered until now. And we can see that some advantages have resulted from the delay. (1) The subject is more complete than at first outlined. (2) We have been enabled to quote the views of others on many parts of the subject: a thing which we could not have done until recently; because only of late are the events such as could be discerned even by the open eyes of the statesman and patriot. What we saw in advance was merely the prophetic foreview;--now we have the corroborative facts to present.

The author sends forth this volume with prayers for Divine blessings upon and to attend it; that through it, if it please God, he may be permitted to minister ("things new and old") to such as

may be hungering and thirsting for it. He desires incidentally also to invoke the assistance and cooperation of all fellow-servants in this ministry of love.

(We denominated it a ministry of love because these publications are not issued for "filthy lucre's sake," but at bare cost.) The author acknowledges with deep appreciation the zeal for God and for his truth which has characterized the efforts of fellow-servants in connection with the circulation of the three preceding volumes;--by which, notwithstanding the unpopularity of the "good tidings," the first volume of the series is now published in English, French, German, Swedish and Dano-Norwegian, and is in its 640,000 edition.

May he who has blessed our efforts as colaborers in his vineyard, and ambassadors for him and his truth, continue us in his service and make us unitedly mighty, through the power of his Word, in pulling down the strong holds of error, and in helping his true people "out of darkness into his marvelous light:" and may we all and ever keep very humble and very near to our Master, remembering always that not we, but his Word, the sword of the spirit, is conquering.

Your brother in Christ, our Redeemer and King,
CHARLES T. RUSSELL
Allegheny, Pa., U. S. A.
October, 1897

VOLUME 5 - The At-One-Ment Between God and Man

The author returns thanks to God, that by divine grace he is permitted to hand to the household of faith the fifth volume of the MILLENNIAL DAWN series. He feels that, considering the importance of the subject discussed, it lies at the very foundation of all Christian doctrine, and considering the fact that this, "faith's foundation strong," is being misrepresented and assailed on every hand by professed teachers and ministers of the gospel, he need offer no apology for wielding the sword of the spirit, the Word of God, in defense of the cross of Christ and all that it implies and involves.

"In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story,
Gathers round its head sublime."

To some it may at first appear that outside matters have been associated with our central theme; but the author confidently trusts that all who give the volume a careful reading will realize, as he does, that the scope of the volume is none too wide. Indeed, the cross of Christ, the atonement for sin, is so vitally connected with the divine plan that rightly seen it sheds a flood of light on every feature: gladly would we have added other features left for Vol. VI., had it not been our desire to restrain the size of this volume.

As in the others, so in this volume, the Common Version Bible translations have been given the preference: yet when it has been necessary to the subject, the author has not hesitated to give such a translation as would clarify the text and illuminate the subject. He requests any disposed to offer criticism along this line to examine first the original texts critically, assuring them of his earnest endeavors to handle the Father's Word both honestly and reverently.

This volume, like its mates, was written with the author's earnest prayers that the Lord would bless and guide in its preparation: that it might be just what would please him to send us as "meat in due season" to his people in this "harvest" time of sifting and testing. And now it is sent forth in the faith that the Lord will bless it and make it a helping hand to some. (Psa. 91:11, 12) We trust that the Lord's people will find it heavily freighted with both the letter and the spirit of the divine Word; but if so, it will, like that Word, be not only "a savor of life unto life [to some] but also a savor of death unto death" to others who will "stumble at the Word, being disobedient."

Where the author's duties and responsibilities in re this volume terminate, the responsibilities of others begin. It is (under divine providence) for the twenty thousand readers of ZION'S WATCH TOWER, who have earnestly expected its publication, first to test by the sure standard, God's Word, and then, if it stands the test, to put it as "present truth" into the hands of neighbors and friends far and near, to all who have "an ear to hear." Nor need we urge this, for by your zealous efforts there are at this moment nearly seven hundred thousand copies of the first volume, and many of the others, in the hands of the people and doing a "reaping" work in which the author and these his many fellow-servants and participators with the great Chief Reaper.

To these ends, may the Spirit of the Truth abundantly bless these pages to the illumination of many hearts and minds; that the light of the glory of God, as it shines in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord and upon his great work of atonement, may scatter much of the darkness of error and superstition which long has befogged and bewildered so many. Amen.

Very truly your brother and servant in Christ.
CHARLES T. RUSSELL.
September, 1899.

VOLUME 6 - The New Creation

THIS, the Sixth Volume of the MILLENNIAL DAWN series, joins its predecessors with the Author's fervent prayers that it may be owned and used of the Lord in the ripening of the "wheat" class--preparing the Lord's consecrated ones for the wonderful "change" of the First Resurrection, for which we are waiting, striving to make our calling and election sure. Other features of the Lord's work have retarded this volume beyond our desires and expectations, yet we are inclined to view even this as a part of the Lord's providence, to permit a thorough reading and digesting of the preceding volumes.

Our Lord, referring to the "harvest" time of this age, and his provision for the peculiar needs of his people in this day of his presence--this day of strenuous activity in all directions--promised that he would send forth to his people "meat in due season--things new and old." (Luke 12:37-42.) That the preceding volumes have corresponded in this description is testified by thousands of welcome letters from all parts of the earth, which tell of nourishment and strength thus supplied by the Lord most opportunely--at a time when, without it, their spiritual growth would have been stunted, if not entirely checked. Our earnest hope is that the present volume may be no less helpful than the others in this respect. Nay, more--we trust that the greater faith and hope and love--the increase of character development--may have so "built up" our readers, so quickened their spiritual perceptions, so sharpened their spiritual appetites, that even the "old" things of God's Word, the old truths, may have a new and appetizing flavor, and be appropriated to their still further spiritual health and strength.

On every hand we see the gulf widening between those few who hold to God's Word and those who, under the lead of "higher criticism," endeavor to make void the divine revelation, and are merely refined and polite rationalists, infidels. Thus, every day we learn to appreciate more and more the divine favor which has anointed the eyes of our understanding, and permitted us to see the internal strength and beauty of the divine Word and plan. If, then, we are thus, by divine favor, made strong in the Lord, and enabled to "stand fast" while thousands on every hand are falling from their faith and steadfastness (Psa. 91:7), let us "rejoice with fear" (reverence). Let him who feels strong and well supported "be not high minded," but "take heed lest he fall." (1 Cor. 10:12.) Humility, and zeal for the Lord, are the terms upon which we received the great blessing, and are also the terms upon which we may retain it to the end-- until our "change" comes and fixes in glory what grace began in our weakness.

Every reader of this volume who receives a blessing through it has a proportionate responsibility- not only to strive to live up to his highest conception of the divine will, but also to extend these "helping hands" to others. Thus many, all over the world, are "fellow servants" with the Author in distributing the "meat in due season--things new and old" to the household of faith. We still, however, advise that Volume 1 of the series be chiefly circulated amongst the newly awakened brethren. The "Plan of the Ages" must be discerned before the other good things of the Father's Word can be properly relished and appropriated. The WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY (of which so many of our readers are members by voluntary contributions) is doing everything possible to supply the growing demand for this volume, of which over one million copies are now in the hands of the public. The recently issued Five Cent edition makes possible a still further dissemination of Present Truth, and may possibly arouse keener opposition. We trust that, Under Divine Providence, the lessons of this Sixth Volume may qualify and strengthen the Lord's faithful to do and bear patiently, and even joyfully, whatever loyalty to the Lord and his Word and his people may cost.

Very truly your Brother and Servant in Christ,
C. T. Russell (signature)
ALLEGHENY, PA. December, 1903.

Preface to "The Tabernacle and its Teachings"

This pamphlet is prepared for thinking Christians; especially those, who "by reason of use, have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." (Heb. 5:11-14.) The author has sought to present, not so much the details of the Tabernacle structure and its furniture, as an explanation of the teachings, and of the significance of the typical sacrifices. The former have been frequently described at length by other writers.

In the interpretation of the types we accept as correct, only such interpretation, as is found in harmony with the other features of the same type, and with the plan and Word of God in general. When we find this, and we believe it to be the case in those explanations offered in this little work, then we feel sure that we have the truth on the subject.

As many of the thoughts are new, the readers will generally be more benefited by a second or third reading than by the first. This pamphlet is dedicated to the Priests and Levites of the Gospel Age--The body of Christ, and Household of Faith--praying the God of all grace that it may be blest to such as have an "ear to hear."

THE AUTHOR.

Pittsburgh, Pa., U. S. A., February 1, 1882.

Preface to Tabernacle Shadows of the Better Sacrifices

The first edition of this little book was published in 1881, and under the Lord's blessing seems to have been very helpful to the class for which it was specially intended, the "royal priesthood."

Many of this class have confessed that as the finger of the Lord it pointed out to them meanings in the Old Testament types never before appreciated; and that it has thus guided them in the way of self-sacrifice, by leading them to see the true significance of the Scriptural declarations-- "Present your bodies living sacrifices," "Fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ," "If we suffer with him we shall also reign with him," "Let us go to him outside the camp, bearing the reproach of him," besides many other Scripture statements which associate the Lord's people with himself both "in the sufferings of this present time and the glory to follow."

The author rejoices that this is true, and prays the divine blessing also upon this new edition, which was made necessary by reason of the electro-plates of the former edition being worn, and by the desire to have its general style conform to that of the MILLENNIAL DAWN series-- for it may properly be considered a supplement and sequel to the fifth volume of that work, kept separate for convenience.

Aside from these typographic changes, and the addition of one chapter, and a few alterations in the phraseology to make some points possibly more perspicuous, there are no changes. Indeed, no particular changes seemed possible or desirable.

The understanding of the subjects herein set forth would seem to have been heaven directed, "taught of God," at a time when the light was absolutely necessary to the full and clear presentation of the Plan of the Ages. And those who have been blessed by the helps furnished in this little book, and others who shall yet be similarly blessed we trust, may all esteem that they are also "taught of God;" for be it noted that the author has sought to prove every point and every application by the Word of the Lord, and has taught nothing of himself: as he has received of the Lord through his Word and spirit he has presented the same--with the evidences--to whoso has an ear to hear.

The careful student will discern that, the applications of the types herein presented being correct, the entire Plan of the Ages is thereby corroborated--justification, sanctification and glorification for the Church first, and subsequently restitution for whoever wills, of all the families of the earth.

To what a glorious gospel, then, is this the key! Dear Reader, if the matters herein presented appeal to you as truth at all, they will surely awaken you to energy and zeal to sacrifice earthly interests, to gain the prize of the high calling;--that you may become one of the royal priests soon to be associated with the great "High Priest of our profession" in the grand work of blessing the groaning creation. And if you get a blessing from these truths, and partake of their spirit, you will want to pass the cup of refreshment on to others who need just such a stimulus to revive their fainting hearts. And if you desire to colobar in this ministry you will find that all arrangements have been perfected by which you can obtain these booklets at a very nominal price--by the dozen or hundred. Every one who receives food at the Lord's table is honored with the privilege of joining in the service,--as "colaborers together with God."

With Christian love, Your brother and servant in Christ,
CHARLES T. RUSSELL--*Allegheny, PA. March 1899*

General Prefaces

(Used in all 6 Volumes between 1908 and 1916)

Studies in the Scriptures

Christian people are becoming more and more awake to the fact that a great tidal wave of unbelief is sweeping over Christendom;--not the blasphemous kind voiced by Thomas Paine and Robert Ingersoll, but the cultured kind represented in the scholarship of our day, which makes the danger all the more insidious.

Not only are the great Colleges and Seminaries undermining the faith of the better educated, but the Common School books, and especially those used in the High Schools, are similarly inculcating a distrust in the Bible, a contradiction of its teachings. For a college graduate of to-day to declare his faith in the inspiration of the Scriptures would bring upon him the scorn of his companions--a scorn which few would court, or could endure. At very best, a few will be found to claim that they believe that Jesus and his Apostles were sincere, though they blundered in quoting from the Old Testament as inspired.

Such a belief in Jesus and his Apostles is no belief at all; for if present-day "higher critics" are wise enough to know when and where our Lord and his Apostles erred in their quotations from the Old Testament, then these wise men of our day are our proper guides,--more inspired than Jesus and his Apostles.

Our Society, realizing the need, is seeking to do all in its power to stem the tide and lift up the Lord's "standard for the people." It has prepared six sets of Bible Studies (of which this volume is one) for Christian people of all denominations to use in lending a helping hand to all perplexed inquirers with whom they may, by God's providence, come in contact. These are supplied at bare cost, and can be had direct from the Society's warerooms or of its colporteurs, who are gradually reaching forth these helping hands far and near.

These valuable "studies" are supplied at little more than two cents each;--15 of them well bound in a cloth case, embossed in gold, for 35 cents. The thought is this: As a Christian man or woman you have children or relatives or neighbors or friends open to your influence--perhaps, indeed, asking your counsel--asking, "How do we know that there is a God?" or, "What proofs have we that the Bible is inspired?"

It is no longer wise to call these silly questions, nor to ask, "Are you an infidel?" However competent you might be to prepare answers to these and a score of other questions, you may not have the needed time and opportunity to do so.

How convenient then to step to your book-case, take down the proper study on the subject, and to say to the inquirer, Sit down and read that short study, and the whole matter of your question will be fully and satisfactorily settled; and if your doubts ever again arise come over and read the same afresh.

Possibly you may be a member of an Epworth League or Christian Endeavor Society, or of a Baptist Young People's Union, and may be called on for an essay on some Scripture topic. How

convenient to select one among these numerous studies (covering almost every topic) and to find therein the appropriate Scriptures cited.

Ministers use them thus when composing sermons and addresses. Ministers who have large libraries touching every conceivable religious topic--many volumes costing \$6 to \$8 per volume--may not feel their need of these "Bible Studies," but to others they are almost indispensable.

Indeed, in addition to the price feature, which brings them within the reach of everybody--six volumes of over 3,000 pages for \$2.00--the usual price for one such volume--they are written in pure, but simple English, whereas the "scholarly works" are replete with technical terms and only for the few.

We invite Christian people of all denominations to join us in the work of extending these "helping hands" to the rising generation. A single friend or relative helped--rescued from doubt or unbelief--would repay the cost of these lessons a thousand times.

Poems and Hymns of Dawn (1890 edition)

Necessity is the best of all reasons. A necessity seems to call for just such a volume of hymns and poems as the one here presented, and therefore it is. Grand truths are made yet grander and more beautiful as smoothly and soothingly they flow in rhyme; and for family worship, and for social public gatherings of the Lord's children, nothing can be much more profitable to them or more pleasing to our Lord than united prayer and praise in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs--singing and making melody unto the Lord from the heart.

True, there are already many collections of poems and of hymns, most of which contain some that are grand and beautiful, and some might therefore question the necessity of a new collection. Collections in general, however, contain much more of chaff than of golden grain; and each collection seems to have omitted many of the choicest and to have included many undesirable.

Hence it seemed to us expedient, and the Lord's will, to prepare this fresh collection. From it we have endeavored to leave out all chaff; and though we cannot hope that we have herein garnered all the worthy grain, we certainly have winnowed very carefully and have found and brought together a collection which in our judgment is without an equal, and just what God's consecrated children will rejoice to see.

It will be observed that the hymns selected generally represent the attitude of truly consecrated believers, whose sins have been forgiven, and not of unbelievers and sinners desiring to find God and to obtain forgiveness. We regard it as improper for any to take the Lord's praise into his mouth until he has believed, and hence until forgiven. (See Psa. 50:16.) We believe, too, that it is very unbecoming to the Lord's saints to take the attitude of sinners, and to sing, for instance Depth of mercy, can there be Mercy still reserved for me? Can my God his wrath forbear; Me, the chief of sinners spare? and many of the same stamp. And it seems equally improper that a hymn should be addressed and sung to sinners, as--"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,"--when the idea should be that of worship to the Lordpraise, prayer and thankfulness. Hence none of the usual revival hymns are included in this collection, which is strictly what its name indicates--for the Bride, and for all the Redeemed.

Not fettered by sectarian boundary lines, we have gathered from everywhere--from the Methodist and the Presbyterian Hymnals, from Winnowed Hymns, from the Gospel Hymns Consolidated, from the Jubilee Harp, and from others a few.

As these hymns and poems are read, it will be noticed that though written under varying circumstances, and some of them centuries apart, the one holy Spirit of the one Master must have more or less controlled and inspired the noble and beautiful truths and sentiments expressed. (We do not mean a plenary inspiration, such as we attribute to the prophets and apostles, but an inspiration resulting from a familiarity and sympathy with the plenary inspirations and teachings of the Scriptures.) While some of these poems have been altered somewhat to bring them into full harmony with the yet clearer light of the "harvest-time," the intelligent reader will be impressed with the thought that though these poets believed themselves to belong to the various sects, yet really they were all of the one church, partakers of the one spirit, taught by the one Lord.

We have not affixed the names of the writers to each poem, for two reasons: first, because we cannot surely know the authorship of all of them; and second, because we could not know whether the authors would in every instance like to have their names attached on account of the alterations made.

Our decision has therefore been to mention the authors' names, so far as known, only in the Index, and there to indicate by a mark (*) which have been altered. This arrangement we trust will be agreeable to many and offensive to none. The poems not set to music we have placed first in order and have arranged them, so far as possible, to tell the story of God's plan for man's salvation and of the believers' faith and growth in grace and trust connectedly.

The hymns, it will be noticed, are arranged in alphabetical order. We trust that this will prove a convenience to all who may use the book, as it will save time and annoyance in searching an index. Tunes suitable to the hymns are indicated at the head of each, so far as possible, and as often as possible the numbers of the same in either *Winnowed Hymns*, *Gospel Hymns Consolidated*, the *Epworth Hymnal*, *Songs of Pilgrimage* or *Jubilee Harp*, which are indicated by the abbreviations W. H., G. H., S. P., and J. H. Where a number meet together one copy each, of the above named books would be convenient for the sake of the music.

Those who will feel the deepest interest in this collection, and whose sentiments will be most fully voiced in its verses, will undoubtedly be those in fullest degree of sympathy with the divine plan of the ages, as set forth in the several volumes of *MILLENNIAL DAWN*, the eyes of whose understandings have been opened to the clearer, purer light now shining from our great Redeemer's cross, showing the fullness and the completeness of his salvation.

In fact, this volume, while not numbered as one of the volumes of the *Millennial Dawn* series, is designed to be a companion volume, a melodious accompaniment to the "new song," "the song of Moses and the Lamb" (the grand harmony of the law and the gospel), as presented in the regular *Dawn* series.

Let the music of God's good and great plan ring through your hearts and lives, dear fellow-pilgrims and fellowmembers of the "royal priesthood," so that every day and every hour shall be filled with joy and praise and thankfulness. And that this little volume may assist in deepening the work of grace in your hearts is our object and our prayer in its preparation.

With grateful thankfulness to our Lord and Master who has blessed me and the work thus, I acknowledge the very valuable assistance of my life-companion and faithful colaborer in the editing of this volume, and pray blessings upon all who use the book similar to that we have enjoyed in its compilation.

Most respectfully,
Your Servant in Christ,
C. T. RUSSELL.
Allegheny, Pa., U. S. A.

Hymns of the Millennial Dawn

1905 Edition

Prefatory

We published in 1890, with several more recent editions, a volume entitled "Poems and Hymns of Millennial Dawn," without music. The same collection of hymns with the music is now urgently needed, and therefore appears in this volume. The poems, although highly prized, are omitted for greater convenience in size.

We have preserved the same alphabetical order, because so many of our readers have the older book; and where a different tune is given from that originally suggested the latter is indicated by Alt. for alternative tune, with the number where that tune can be found.

Both words and music are credited to the same class to whom the work is dedicated--to the Lord and His faithful people, "the Saints." The authors of many of the best of them are unknown to us, and, besides, slight changes have been made in the phraseology and sentiment of quite a number, which we could not be sure their original authors would approve, and to give personal credit to less than one half would seem invidious.

To all of these dear "Saints" of all ages we therefore give united and hearty thanks for the blessings which they, as the Lord's servants and handmaidens, have bestowed upon their fellow members of "the Church of the Firstborn, whose names are written in Heaven." Most of them died long ago: their abundant reward will be of the Lord in the resurrection.

That the collection is thoroughly undenominational, unsectarian, will be manifest to those recognizing the fact that it includes the choicest old hymns and tunes used by all denominations. Although we have gathered far and near and winnowed carefully we cannot hope to have gotten all the golden grains, though we do hope that no chaff can be found. The collection is for the Church, for "believers" "reconciled," and hence contains none of the "sinners" hymns, such as "Come, ye sinners poor and needy," because willful sinners are in no sense members of the "body" of Christ, nor are those who have not yet accepted the Lord as their Savior.

Those who will feel the deepest interest in this collection, and whose sentiments will be most fully voiced in its verses, will undoubtedly be those in fullest degree of sympathy with the divine plan of the ages, as set forth in the several volumes of Millennial Dawn, the eyes of whose understandings have been opened to the clearer, purer light now shining from our great Redeemer's cross, showing the fullness and the completeness of his salvation.

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ALLEGHENY, PA., U. S. A.